Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one registered letter was missing in the Kunnamkulam Anchal Office;

if so, what action was taken and how the matter ended?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Yes, in Medam 1108.

The matter is under enquiry.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is now more than three years?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—The Anchal Master was suspended and degraded and it has been ordered that he should not be put in charge of an independent station. There is a civil case pending in the Wadakkanchery Munsiff's Court and so further action will be taken only after knowing the results of the civil case.

Tolls—collection of.

198. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they are aware that in Mysore and some other States the practice of collecting tolls by the Municipalities and Taluks is for 24 hours and not from sun-rise to sun-set;

(2) will the Government be pleased to introduce this system in our State also?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) No.

(2) It is not the practice in the State to collect tolls from sun-rise to sun-set. It is from mid-night to mid-night at Municipal toll-gates and from sun-rise to sun-rise at Taluk toll-gates.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it not the principle of levying tolls that the toll is levied for using the road for 24 hours?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon—I accept that principle. But there are certain practical difficulties. If the tolls are maintained by two different toll contractors there is a likelihood of the person who takes the toll receipt to induce the contractor to give a wrong time. If such a practice is followed it is possible that our toll revenues will be affected.

Connecting the river lying between Chambakara and Chittur (South) with the Backwater.

199. **Mr. A. Narayana Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(a) i. whether there is any connection with backwater by canal of that portion of the river that lies between Chambakara and Chittur (South);

ii. what is the north to south length of that portion of the river;

iii. is it not the recipient of excess water that flows from Eroor and Irimpanam lands during the rainy seasons;

iv. does not the absence of facilities for free passage of water from this portion of the river cause annual floods in the Eroor and Irimpanam wet lands;

v. have not the Government received petitions on this matter;

(b) how long was this matter pending before the Government;

(c) will the Government take immediate steps to minimise the adverse effect of the floods; if so, when and in what form;

(d) have not the Government been requested to dig a thodu right across Vyttila and Elamkulam and to connect it with the Mullasseri thodu; has this request been disposed of by the Government as yet; if so, when;

(e) will not such a thodu provide cheap means of communication?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) i. The river has connections to the backwaters at Vaduthala on the north and the Marattil Puthen thodu on the south.

ii. About 4 miles.

iii. Yes.

iv. Floods in exceptional years had affected the wet lands.

v. Yes.

(b) Representations in this matter were made even prior to the year 1093.

(c) Government have now under their consideration a drainage scheme designed to give flood relief to the localities.

(d) Government have received a request to construct a canal from the Eroor thodu to the backwater across Vyttila and Elamkulam. The request has not been finally disposed of.

(e) The canal will be useful for navigation purposes. But there exists other canal routes in the area.

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—When was this request received, Sir?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I have stated that representations in this matter were made even prior to the year 1093.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is about the request in sub-division (d) that I require information.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

The Ferry and Transport Services—inconveniences experienced by.

200. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state if they have ever received any representations from the Ferry and Transport Services, Ltd., Mattancheri in regard to the various inconveniences they experience in rendering efficient and satisfactory service to the passengers for want of Government's attention in responding to certain requests;

(b) if so, what action have the Government taken in the matter of complying to such requests?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes. The Ferry and Transport Services, Ltd., have represented that they find it difficult to land passengers at the Ernakulam and Mattancheri Ferry jetties, the backwaters there being silted up.

(b) Dredging has been done several times.

APPENDIX I.

(*Question No. 85.*)

Petition dated 17th Meenam 1111.

കാട്ടകാമ്പാൽ വില്ലേജ് ഗ്രൂപ്പ് പഞ്ചായത്ത കോടതി മുമ്പാകെ താഴെ പേരെഴുതി ഒപ്പിട്ടുന്ന ആളുകൾ ബോധിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

പഴഞ്ഞി അങ്ങാടിയുടെ പടിഞ്ഞാറെ ഭാഗം ചിറയത്തു പാടത്തു ള്ള വലിയ തോട്ടിൽനിന്നു വട്ടക്കായൽ പാടത്തേക്കുള്ള തോട് താഴ്ച കുറഞ്ഞതിനാൽ കൃഷികർക്കു വളരെ കഷ്ടങ്ങൾ സംഭവിക്കുക നിമിത്തം ടി തോട് പുറമ്പോക്കു സ്ഥലം എടുത്തു വീതിക്കൂട്ടി താഴ്ത്തി കിട്ടേണമെ ന്നു ഈ കോടതിയിൽ C. വ്യ/ക്ര-ം പഞ്ചായത്തു ഡയറക്ടർ അവർ കളുടെ ആപ്പീസ്സിൽ C. നം൦/ക്രക്രക്ര-ം നമ്പരുകളായി ബോധിപ്പി ച്ചു ഹർജിക്കു കൃഷിക്കാർ നേർപകുതി സംഖ്യ സംഭാവന ചെയ്യുന്നതു

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